

Stewart, Prof. William Kilborne

Dartmouth College

Dec 1914 - June 1915
(K)

See also

"German Professors - Exchange" 1914-15.

December 5th, 1914

My dear Professor Stewart:

We are in great difficulties in our German Department. There has been such an outcry against the employment of native Germans that they have been given leave of absence for the present session. Poor Stadler who was to come to us as Associate-Professor went to the war and has been killed, so in addition to our being deprived of our ordinary lecturers now we are without a man for the higher position. I have been wondering whether you would think of returning to Toronto. As you know Professor Needler is head of the department, and I think he has been a friend of yours for a good while. Just what we can do in the rearranging of things I do not yet see. If you would like to come back perhaps you would let me know on what terms you would come, so that when I am coming to a decision I may know the possibilities of my line of action.

Do you happen to know any position in German in any of the United States Colleges which could be taken by our Professor Mueller? He is an excellent teacher of German and his going would undoubtedly weaken our teaching staff, but probably it would be more comfortable for him if he were living in a place where his German birth would not subject him to criticism. Perhaps if we could have an exchange even for the next term that might tide over our difficulties. An American might take his place here. Can you make any suggestion on this line?

With kind Regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

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December 23rd, 1914

Professor W. K. Stewart,
Dartmouth College,

Hanover, N.H.

My dear Professor Stewart:

Many thanks for your letter of December 9th, which I was very glad to get. I have been considering it pretty carefully and I am hardly in a position yet to give you more definite word as to what our proposed position in German will be. I hope, however, by the middle of January to have something more definite, and I will write to you probably before the end of the month.

Through McMaster University we are getting some teaching done in German, and so far we are not arranging for an exchange for Professor Mueller. If I could get an exchange made for Professor Benzinger in Orientals, taking in his place a man who knows Arabic, I should be greatly relieved, but so far none of the large Universities have been able to help me out.

With the Season's greetings,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

January 28th, 1915

Professor W. K. Stewart,
Dartmouth College,
Hanover, N.H.

My dear Professor Stewart:

I am afraid that I have kept you waiting for an answer longer than you will think was right, but for one reason and another I have been unable until now to make any definite proposal. I am afraid that the best that we can do for the next two years would be an associate-professor's position at three thousand dollars a year. This was the salary for which Professor Stadler was to come to us. Unfortunately, the condition of the university finances at present is such that I am unable to speak with confidence as to what may happen one or two years after this. We anticipate a decrease in our fees next year owing to the war, and I have no doubt that the finances of the Province will be for a few years in such a condition that the Government will scrutinise with every care our expenditure, and may impose pretty rigid limits upon us. However, you know the University and you know the Province, and I myself have full confidence that after the present depressing period is over we shall enter upon another era of prosperity in which the University will share. I shall be glad to hear from you at your convenience, and I hope that you may see your way to casting in your lot with us. With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

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Feb. 1st/15:

My dear Dr. Falconer -

I thank you
for your letter of Jan. 28th
containing an offer of an
Associate Professorship in German.
I should be greatly obliged to
you for further information on
several points. What is the
probable number of class-room
hours per week that will be
required? Is there any arrangement
for sabbatical years or leaves
of absence? Are professors at
the University entitled to Carnegie
pensions or other retiring allowances?
Do you anticipate any decline
in the demand for German as a
result of the animosity engendered

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by the war? It may surprise you to hear that there has been a distinct falling off in the study of German in certain parts of New England this year because of the prevalent hostility to Germany. The question of freedom in the choice of text-books and the wider question of freedom in public utterances are also of great interest to me. Do you believe that in such respects a teacher's liberty is restricted in a state university?

There are so many pros and cons involved that I fear I cannot make up my mind as promptly as would otherwise be desirable. May I

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ask you therefore to allow me
two or three weeks longer
before rendering my final
decision?

With kind regards,
I am

Sincerely yours,
W.K. Stewart.

February 3rd, 1915.

Professor W. K. Stewart,
Dartmouth College,
Hanover, N.H.

Dear Professor Stewart:

In the absence of President
Falconer in New York I beg to acknowledge the receipt
of your letter, which will be answered by the President
on his return early next week.

Yours very truly,

President's Secretary.

February 10th, 1915

Professor W. K. Stewart,
Dartmouth College,

Hanover, N.H.

My dear Professor Stewart:

I am glad to receive your letter. The average number of hours for class-room instruction in the Department of German is twelve. There might be in some years an hour or two less, and perhaps in some other year an hour more, but I think twelve is what one might count upon.

The Professors of the University are entitled to pensions on the Carnegie Foundation, their service in other institutions being taken account of.

While there is no regular rule as to leave of absence, hitherto Professors who have served for seven years in the University have been granted leave on application at two-thirds salary. It cannot be put forward as a claim, but as far as I remember since I have come to the University no one has been refused who has asked for leave. We try to arrange it in such a way as to make it convenient through co-operation with other members of the staff.

As far as we can judge there will be no decline in the demand for German on account of the present war. The school system of the Province demands specialists in languages of which German is one, and when the war is over it is altogether probable that the feeling towards Germany will become normal.

Text-books and courses of instruction are under the control of the Department of German. No outside pressure is used in determining the courses.

In a State University we try to avoid political entanglements and consequently I think it wise for any member of the staff to avoid in his public utterances reference to party struggles that may be agitating the people, but even this as far as I am aware does not weigh upon any member of the staff, and otherwise there is perfect freedom of speech.

I hope the information that I have given you is satisfactory. If there are any points that are not clear, I shall write you at greater length.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

FRANKLIN.

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Sept 22nd /10

My dear Dr. Falcouner

After a lengthy consideration of your kind offer of an Associate Professorship in German, I feel under a duty obliged to decline it. I trust that my deliberation in the matter has not caused you inconvenience. The question was unusually hard for me to determine and I assure you that my final decision has not been reached without keen regret. For patriotic and other sentimental reasons I should be glad to return to Toronto. But my position at Dartmouth is so pleasant, and with the increased salary which

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I shall receive next year, a financial sacrifice (in view of the difference in cost of living) would be so great that a change does not seem desirable. Permit me, however, to thank you again for the kindness of your offer which I appreciate no less because I have not accepted it.

May I call your attention to Professor W. K. Hardy of the German Department & then as an excellent man who would, I believe, fill the German position most acceptably? I make this suggestion without any knowledge on Dr. Hardy's part, and for reasons of delicacy I should not

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wish to have my name mentioned
to him in connection with the
matter. Dr. Hardy is the third
man in the Department here and
for that reason his way is
blocked. I know that he is
dissatisfied with his position
and would be glad of a chance
to better himself. At the same
time I do not wish to appear
desirous of having him leave
Dartmouth, for such is not my
feeling in the least. He is a
graduate of Dartmouth of the class
of 1894. He has spent four years
in Germany and received his
doctorate at Leipzig in 1894. His
training was largely philological,
but since returning to Dartmouth
as a member of the staff his

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teaching has been especially
along literary lines. He has
been successful here both in
the class-room and as a
faculty administrator. As I
survey the field, he seems to
be the best man available for
such a position as the one at
University College. I believe this
to be an unprejudiced judgment.

With renewed thanks and
kind regards, I am

Very sincerely yours

W. K. Stewart

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February 25th, 1915

Professor M. K. Stewart,

Dartmouth College,

Hanover, N.H.

My dear Professor Stewart:

I am sorry to learn from your letter of February 22nd that you feel it necessary to decline the offer of an Associate-Professorship in German. I regret your decision very much because I know that if you had come our department should have been greatly strengthened. However, I do not feel that it would be right to urge you to come against your mature judgment, as I always think that a man does his best work where he recognizes his duty to be.

I thank you for mentioning the name of Dr. Hardy. I have one or two other names that have been also highly recommended. It is perhaps doubtful whether we shall appoint an Associate-Professor now. It may be that we may try to get a younger man of promise who would take an Assistant-Professorship, but good men in German are so hard to find, particularly in view of our necessary limitations, that our plans cannot be very definite.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

May 6th, 1915

Professor W. K. Stewart,
Department of German,
Dartmouth College.

Dear Professor Stewart:

Many thanks for your letter. Every one here feels proud of what the Canadians have been doing, but it has involved tremendous loss and it is coming home to many people. Yesterday we took formal leave of our University Hospital which leaves for the front in a few days. They will take charge of 1000 beds.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

May 20th, 1915

Professor W. E. Stewart,
Dartmouth College.

My dear Professor Stewart:

I am very anxious to get a permanent position for E.W. Mueller, who is our Associate Professor of German. It looks to me as though a serious situation is developing. Do you think there would be any chance of our getting a place for Mueller in the United States? I think he would be more comfortable, and it would solve our difficulties if he could begin now in some other place. With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

May 26th, 1915

Professor W. K. Stewart,
Dartmouth College,
Hanover, N.H.

My dear Professor Stewart:

Many thanks for your letter. I will write at once to Kansas, as I have already done to Minnesota. I am sorry that you do not know of any place. However, I am much indebted to you for your kindness.

Yours sincerely,

President.

June 4th, 1915

Professor W. K. Stewart,
Dartmouth College,
Hanover, N.H.

Dear Professor Stewart:

In the absence of President Falconer in
Kingston I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter telling
of two possible positions in German for Professor Mueller. I
will send letters to the two addresses given. I am sure the
President will be greatly pleased for the information, and will
himself write a letter of thanks to you.

Yours very truly,

President's Secretary.